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Elements of Successful Websites for Educators

Proposed by

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Abstract

Introduction: NASA creates many websites intended to educators. These websites contain essential elements that may be valuable for educators. The success of a website depends on the building process that is used to create educator websites. By identifying frameworks for websites and the sequential steps that are part of the website design process, the use by educators of this electronic dissemination and information tool is increased.

Websites include information, images and activities that engage educators and are useful to them in their classrooms. Websites also offer NASA an important dissemination venue for our products and public outreach. The benefits to teachers and their students are :

- a. increased contact with NASA products
- b. improved communication with educators
- c. sense of ownership of NASA materials if websites are interactive
- d. feedback that can be used for the modification of NASA education products
- e. qualitative and quantitative information for evaluation

A review of a dozen websites is presented with critique of the qualities that enhance or detract from use by educators. A rubric is presented for website evaluation